Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 04 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Saturday 05 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Friday 04 Dec 2020 at 01:55 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for very poor conditions on Friday, but lower for how high freezing levels rise. Moderate for details over the weekend. Confidence falling to low on Monday.

Headline for Friday 04 Dec 2020: Poor mountain conditions. Snow, turning to rain or sleet below the summits. Summit gales.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 04 Dec 2020

Blizzards High Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** Medium Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** Medium Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability					
60%	80%	70%	70%	80%	70%

Forecast for Friday 04 Dec 2020

Weather: Thickening cloud spreads west through the early hours with occasional snow flurries shortly before dawn. Snow flurries turn increasingly frequent in the morning, then heavier at times across northern and eastern ranges in the afternoon and evening with summit gales giving blizzard conditions. Southwestern ranges towards Knoydart likely to be mainly dry but cloudy in the afternoon and evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Generally nil, cloud extensive throughout the day above 400-500m, often to lower slopes in the east. But 40-50% on Skye where cloud likely to be above the summits at times, mainly in the morning.

Visibility: Very poor in low cloud. Near zero for much of the day on the tops in blizzards and whiteout conditions. Good in the west below the cloud base.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Friday 04 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	40/45 N	40/48 N	37/46 N	33/41 N	37/47 NE	38/49 NE	37/48 NE
900	33/38 N	35/43 N	33/41 N	30/38 N	34/43 NE	35/46 NE	33/44 NE
600	23/28 N	28/36 N	24/33 N	21/29 N	23/32 NE	25/36 NE	22/33 NE
300	5/31 N	5/34 N	7/34 N	7/31 N	7/34 NE	9/36 NE	9/35 NE
Glen	16/34 NE	18/38 N	18/38 N	15/32 N	13/30 NE	15/34 NE	18/36 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-4/-14	-3/-13	-2/-11	-1/-10	-1/-10	-2/-11	-3/-12
900	-3/-13	-2/-12	-1/-10	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-10	-2/-11
600	-1/-8	-0/-8	1/-6	2/-5	2/-5	1/-6	0/-7
300	1/-2	1/-1	2/-0	3/-0	3/0	3/-0	2/-1
Glen	3/-2	4/-1	5/0	6/1	6/2	6/2	5/0
Freezing Level*	200m	500m	700m	900m	900m	800m	600m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Serious mountain conditions. Very poor visibility and a risk of hypothermia.

Forecast for Saturday 05 Dec 2020
Weather: Rain, with snow above 600-700m, persistent across Caithness and Easter Ross through the early hours and much of the morning before turning patchy in the afternoon. Increasingly dry and bright towards the west coast with some sunny spells, the best of these south of Skye.

Maximum wind: Northeast 25 gusting 35-40 mph, soon easing to 15-20 mph in the morning.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10% or less across eastern ranges, cloud generally extensive above 500m. 60% near the west coast where cloud well broken and often above the summits.

Visibility: Very poor in the east in low cloud, but good below the cloud base. Very good near the west coast.

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 1 Celsius rising to plus 2 Celsius.
At 800m: 0 Celsius.
Freezing level: 800-1000m.

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